
This Just In ...

A Bulletin for News of Political Prisoners and POWs

Issue 6

NOVEMBER 1994

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Note from the Editors: Hearty thanks for keeping us up to date on your activities and situations. Along with your comrades in other prisons, we appreciate knowing you better.

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"Free at last!" shouts **Luis Colon Osorio** Puerto Rico. "Not guilty of 'fugitive with weapons' charge' before jury of 12 Puerto Ricans. House arrest over! Electronic shackle removed!" Family is "ecstatic!" And then he proclaims, "Will dedicate myself to working for the release of *all* the political prisoners!"

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Richard Williams writes from Lompac, CA,: "Hi! It was so good to get T.J.I. It keeps me in touch with my comrades. Sorry to hear about Tom's shoulder. I'm still limping around with the cane since they won't give me the shoes I need. I may eventually have to sue. They are being real adamant that I must wear steel toe shoes even though I can't wear them. I do not have a job that requires them so they say steel toes or nothing. My health is good and so are my spirits.

"For California the weather here is kind of shitty but compared to out east it is great--no snow or sleet, actually very little rain. The bad part about being banished here is no visits. My mother came out last year but aside from that my kids cannot afford to come, though I did see my 2 youngest just before I left Trenton in April '92. I've heard from a few people outside but besides my family and a few select people I don't hear from so many people anymore. My job is with Food Service but it's a make-work job so I don't do much." *** "I'm keeping busy and read a lot--that is when I can get hold

of good books as the library is limited. A big Hello to all the comrades and like the Phoenix we shall rise again." *** "Venceremos!"

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Eddie Hatcher writes from Carthage, N.C. where he was moved "very quickly. " "I feel sure," he writes, "that it's coming from some of the Hubert Stone supporters." {Ed note: Stone is Sheriff of Robeson County, accused by Eddie Hatcher of crooked operations and drug dealing. Eddie led a campaign to prevent Stone from being appointed as U.S. Marshall, a campaign so far successful.] *** Eddie writes, "Our dear governor [Jim Hunt] went to South Africa to talk Mandela into trading with N.C. The nerve of the SOB" *** Eddie has issued an appeal for people to write to Mandela asking him to look into the Hatcher case before he makes any deals with the governor of N.C. *** "I haven't," continues Eddie, "received my 7th 'Parole Denial' letter but am expecting it any day." *** "Take care..."

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Herman Bell writes from Eastern N.Y. State C.F.: "Nothing new. The lawyers are still talking so my 'legal update' will come a bit later." *** "Meantime, my response to requests from comrades that we include opinion pieces in the Bulletin coincides with that of Tom Manning as expressed in the October issue #5: other forums exist for more extensive pieces and that we should not overextend, and exhaust this precious gem we have." *** "Greetings to all the comrades!"

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Marilyn Buck writes from Dublin, CA. FCI: "Just a note to say hello As ever I was glad to get last month's *TJI*. Thank you for your soli-

darity." *** "Nothing to report this month." *** But then she writes: "I do enclose our AIDs Walkathon Brochure; that is what we are working on. Linda is a driving force. I am working on it as well. We hope to walk 5000 miles among all the women; and of course raise funds for the hotel [The Ambassador Hotel which cares for the homeless]."

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Susan Rosenberg and **Laura Whitehorn** write from FCI Marianna: "Susan's Sept. hearing was postponed (for the 2nd time) by the Board--approaching a brand new version of '3 strikes and you're out?'" *** "Our AIDS Awareness Group has revised our comprehensive outline/teaching guide for an 8-week course on HIV/AIDS, prisons & AIDS, and racism, sexism, homophobia and AIDS. The course outline is available to peer educators in prison--you can get a copy from The Chicago Co-Conspirators (it's 20 pp. long): c/o Gould/4646 N. Winchester Apt. 2/ Chicago, IL 60640." *** "*This Just In...* is great. We missed the last issue because it was barred by the prison. Thank you for doing it. Love and solidarity to all our comrades."

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Prince Imari A. Obadele writes from Ellis Unit, Huntsville, TX.: "My legal status is a pending post-conviction writ challenging my conviction. My last parole 'eligibility' hearing was in March of this year. I was 'set-off' until August, '95." *** Job assignment?: "We are not paid for our labor. I am a 'porter' in the Bus Repair. In that plant prisoners virtually rebuild buses, trucks, vans, cars, etc. for the 'state', various public school districts, 'impounded' vehicles, etc. Prisoner labor in this plan secures for the 'state' an average of 1 million dollars annually." *** Health? "Chronic headaches and chronic lower back pain resulting from cracked vertebrae and deteriorating disc. Was 'unassigned' by the specialist at John Seely Hospital in Galveston, TX. It has a contract with the Texas DOC. TDCJ officials here have ignored the specialists and are forcing me to work." *** Obadele is co-chair of Black Fist Collective and

This Just In ...

a member of the National Coalition of Blacks for Reparations in America. He is working on "The Goldfront Project." He tells about it: "We all know that [some of] our youth are engaged in destructive behavior...that our communities are in a state of emergency! ...We see that those of us who are imprisoned have a responsibility to bear for some of the destruction being visited upon our communities. Recognizing and bearing that responsibility. We have developed an initiative which we are confident will contribute *some* to stemming the tide....One way we believe will help is to bring [our youth] into the penitentiaries for intense tours of the entire dehumanizing process and discussions with those of us in here who can effectively demonstrate to them the relationship between their self-destructive actions, destruction of our communities, and prisons, and how they are only helping those who would rather see them locked-up, or dead, by continuing upon the path a lot of them are on and are headed...." *** For more information contact: A.M.31 - N'Cobra, PO Box 75437, Baton Rouge, La. 70874.

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Maulana Modibo Eusi writes from Marion FCI, Marion, IL. that he is still awaiting a review of his post-conviction petition in which he is challenging his conviction on 3 grounds: "That the prosecution and police knowingly used perjured and manufactured testimony to convict me; withheld exculpatory evidence that would have exonerated me; and hidden a key witness...so that he could not testify on my behalf...The public defender office appointed to represent me have done absolutely jackshit to help prove my innocence...My...mother-in-law...has hired a private investigator to locate and convince the key witness...to come forward and tell the truth about my case...." *** Maulana has made available [through *This Just In...*] information about how to legally change your name. He, after some effort, is now, no longer, known by his slave name. *** Maulana's interests are: working with youth, writing, avid reader, playing chess, playing softball, discoursing about world events." ***

"Comrade George tells us: doomsday is dawning; on this most awesome day all imbalance and contradictions must be resolved, and it will be some of us who will be left to rebuild this world and people these lands with civil men and women...But until that day..." ***
 "The struggle continues."

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Eleggua Osun Elufe writes from Eastern New York State C.F.: "Under the new crime bill, many of the prisoner's educational/recreational [opportunities] will be taken away by 1995." *** Eleggua is active in "a Latino Cultural Class, Legal Research Class, PACE group and Alternative to Violence group." *** "I am awaiting up-to-date review on my arm because of nerve damage." *** "It is very spiritually motivating to acknowledge their spiritual strength and resistance under our present condition, and we are motivating each other by reading and writing *This Just In...*"

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Alberto Rodriguez writes from Lewisburg USP where he's been for 9 years. He tells us: "I had planned to go before the parole board in October of this year but due to difficulty in having a lawyer visit me I postponed it until February of 1995. I have completed 1/3 of my sentence." *** A new warden has attempted to institute some changes to improve conditions but has taken a more repressive approach towards prisoners which has caused an increase in tension and hostility." *** I work as shop aide and clerk for the Auto Heat Institute VT program." *** "I participate in the arts and crafts program as well as a music program." *** Starting in November will commence to teach a 24 week course on Latin American History concentrating on Puerto Rico. In December will begin a self-instruction guitar course offered by the education department here. Real busy with the Arts Exhibition for Mumia as well as gathering support for my parole. In January will be partly responsible for holding seminars on air conditioning for the V.T. Program, this will be a six month program." *** I have a chronic back pain due to a weight lifting injury

This Just In ...

of 4 years ago." *** "Abuela' just celebrated her 89th birthday. Father and Mother doing fine. In October my daughter will celebrate her 17th birthday and son his 12th. I hope to see both of them real soon." *** "*This Just In...* is a great idea...maintaining lines of communications open in spite of everything against it."

[Ed note: Alberto sent a beautiful photo of himself and his parents Manuel and Carmen. How about getting pictures of the rest of you?]

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Abdul - Haqq writes from Clinton, NY. C.F.: "Conditional release date 3/20/96." *** "My guilty verdict for a prison thought crime was recently reversed, probably due to its exposure in *This Just In...*" *** "No job--cell study." *** "Waiting to receive my books for the last term in my B.A. program. Independent studies in Education and Ideology." *** "I've been receiving responses to my revelation of my projects in *This Just In...* I'm still rolling with these programs. The main 2 are the Malcolm X/George Jackson Education Movement and the planned publication of 3 newspapers--(1) Allahu Akbar (2) The Anti-amerikkkan and (3) The Islamic Bomb. I encourage other brothers and sisters who are interested in these actions to contact me." *** "Sister, Marilyn Buck! Whenever I'm debating with the cultural nationalists and they come with the pseudo-science about 'the white man is the devil' I tell them about you, Tom Manning, David Gilbert and others whose sincerity is unblemishable. That always leaves them speechless. And it opens the door to explain the causative roles of ideology. Theory and consciousness. The argument that a handful of isolated imitators of Nazism cannot put together a comprehensive universal revolutionary program is also compelling." *** "I've contributed an essay and a poem to the project to save Mumia's life. I've written to several people with a voice in the outside world about his situation. AND I WILL DO MORE. I'm making strong *dua* (prayer) for him."

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Jaana Laaman writes from Leavenworth: "We are working hard, in a collective way, to contribute to the effort to support--save our brother Mumia Abu-Jamal's life." *** "My father passed (on Oct. 3). He was 73, but he could have been with us a lot longer. Cancer, so it wasn't unexpected, but there is no OK time to lose a father, a parent..." *** They are pushing the population way up in here again. Since the spring, they've kept the population down, probably an effort to not have any major incidents this summer--the past two summers we've had major lock-downs after large scale incidents here." *** "A Red 'Day of the Heroic Guerrilla' salute to us all! (October 9th)."

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Kalonji Jihad writes from Indiana State Prison: "Will be moved to M.C.C> soon." *** "[I have] two pending post-conviction reliefs." *** [I am] writing essays and pamphlets and working on two books..." *** "I am drinking contaminated water; food full of bacteria." *** "Thru self-determination, revolutionary greetings to all POW/P.P. and Oppressed People thru-out de world, as I watch de colonists/prisoncrats/their agents move toward isolating de future generations. De united snakes' incarceration rate is de highest thru-out de world, but colonists don't care about Oppressed People. Their habitual criminal act was not good enough with 30 years, now their '3 strikes and you're out,' which is life in prison. Africans are being imprisoned more than any other nation, inside de united snakes, Africans are being imprisoned just like Africans used to be confined to bantustans' areas in South Africa. It has already been estimated that half-of-population in de united snakes will be imprisoned by 2050. This is de colonists' goal."

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Mohammed Ali writes from MCC New York: "Waiting for trial since 16 months." *** "They put me in the hall (box) for 10 months and after a big struggle I'm in general population." *** Organized activity: "Sports." *** Health: "I have problem in my feet and they give promises since 6 months and nothing happen." ***

This Just In ...

News of family: "Very [little] since they destroy some of the letters." *** "I would like to receive any Arabic newspapers."

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Christopher Naeem Trotter writes from MCC, Westville, IN: "I write to inform all concern comrades, brother/sistas that Rome has transferred me to the torture Maximum Control Complex in Westville, In. After 9 years on a Isolation/control unit one would think that enough was enough, but this recent move by prisoncrats only goes to show that they are determined to try and break my spirit/will to struggle. The positive news is that Rome can't break me and I'm still strong and still black. I will reopen all lines of communication just as soon as I settle in this new beast. In the meantime I could use letters of support from all comrades. A beloved salute to sista Aystra and to Chuckie Africa." *** "In struggle!"

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Chuckie Africa writes from S.C.I. Somerset: "Still pending transfer..." *** "Post conviction hearing continued..." *** "Always a new rule (of course the guards never follow them)." *** Activity: "Filing. (Mainly helping others file criminal complaints against harassment by racist guards and provoking investigations from inside authorities)." *** "Teaching whoever and all that I can the truth about MOVE, *John Africa's* teachings. Clearing up past distortions from the government's agents, news media, courts, etc. and their attempt to 'ostracize' MOVE like they have historically done against any and all anti-thesis, orgs., movements against them." *** "My family is constantly on the case pushing for release from our unjust imprisonment; and supporting Mumia Abu Jamal with money raising benefits and always an abundance of speaking engagements. Pam Africa is very instrumental w/comm. to Free Mumia Abu Jamal." *** "A sincere and warm greeting to all those sisters and brothers who've communicated via this Bulletin. And for those who haven't because the secret police are intercepting their mail or not 'allowing...because of security...' *** "A special

salute to a good sister: Jamila Levi who just established a Committee to Free Mumia Abu Jamal in western Pa. (Pittsburgh area)." *** "On the MOVE"

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Imara Sekou Joka Kambon writes from Corcoran, CA: "This letter is just to inform you that I am being transferred to Pelican Bay State Prison. This means that I will be out of contact for a while, perhaps until end of October. Once I am able to communicate I will." *** "My regards to the worthy."

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Eric Wildcat Hall writes from State Correctional Institution in Pittsburgh, PA: "Recent disciplinary action and results: Possession of contraband: 3 styrofoam cups (only 2 allowed); 5 two-foot sections of mennon treated toilet paper twists burnt like incense to light cigarettes so that matches can be conserved. We only get one book of matches a week and that's only if you buy the one pouch Bugler per week limit from the prison commissary: 4 postage forms used when sending out overweight mail; 2 snuff containers; 1 charred top tobacco pouch used as container to hold cup of breakfast coffee being heated over burning toilet paper.--Sanction: 30 more days in the hole." *** "Refusal to get hair cut; disobeying direct order to do so--Sanction: 15 more days in the hole." *** "Refusal to accept cell partner; disobeying direct order to do so--Sanction: 30 more days in the hole." *** Struggle update; number of long hairs in the hole has increased from 3 to 4, comprised of 2 Native American Indians; 1 African American (?) Jamaican--don't know he is in another part of hole--Rastafarian!; 1 African American Coptic-Rasta." *** "Health problems: Refused all meal trays from Aug.22 to Sept.23, '94" [This was beginning of intermittent fasting until October 14.] *** "Prison Supt. White recommended transfer to 'Special Management Unit'. Transfer further recommended by Deputy Commissioner T. Fulcomer of Western PA Region. Transfer petition forwarded to PA. DOC Commissioner Lehman for final decision. I'm cleaning the cell and packing pa-

This Just In ...

pers into 9 X 12 envelopes. Destination, Journey to the Spirit Land--but I'd rather walk into the Pittsburgh, PA State Correctional Institution's dining hall." *** In the Spirit of Crazy Horse...."

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LOCATIONS FOR PRISONERS IN THIS BULLETIN

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Eddie Hatcher, #DL213, PO Box 805, Carthage, NC, 28327

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Luis Colon Osorio is somewhere in Puerto Rico!

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